

**AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS**

1. (currently amended) An active composition for a positive electrode of an alkaline electrochemical cell, comprising:

a nickel hydroxide material; and

a binder comprising ~~a pectin or~~ a molasses.

Claims 2-5 (canceled)

6. (original) The active composition of claim 1, wherein said binder is between about 0.1 and 2.0 weight percent of said active material composition.

7. (currently amended) A positive electrode for an alkaline electrochemical cell, comprising:

an active composition including:

a nickel hydroxide material; and

a binder comprising ~~a pectin or~~ a molasses.

Claim 8-11 (canceled)

12. (original) The active composition of claim 7, wherein said binder is between about 0.1 and 2.0 weight percent of said active material composition.

13. (currently amended) An alkaline electrochemical cell, comprising:

at least one positive electrode;

at least one negative electrode; and

an alkaline electrolyte,

said positive electrode having an active material composition including a nickel hydroxide material and a binder comprising ~~a pectin or~~ a molasses.

Claim 14 (canceled)

15. (original) The electrochemical cell of claim 13, wherein said negative electrode comprises a hydrogen storage active material.

Claim 16-18 (canceled)